

STUDY GUIDE OBJECTIVES:

Provide information for Mental Health Board members to assist in decision-making at commitment hearings

To accomplish the objective, readers will:

- Gain an appreciation of the role of the Mental Health Board in preserving an individual's rights and ensuring due process at Mental Health Board hearings
- Know the implications for Mental Health Board decisions arising from the cases of Olmstead, Wickwire, and Albert
- Become aware of the elements contained in a five Axis diagnosis from the most current edition of DSM (Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders) and the content of a mental status exam
- Apply the criteria of magnitude, imminence, likelihood and frequency in making determination of dangerousness to self and to the public
- Identify the difference between substance abuse and substance dependency
- Learn the State definition of dual disorder
- Use the statutory requirement for least restrictive level of care, to commit to outpatient/community based services
- Have a list of questions to ask at hearings to gain the clear and convincing proof of mental illness and dangerousness needed to make a commitment decision